

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 CU-04 A-01 OPR-02 SY-10 SIL-01 LAB-06 EB-11

RSR-01 /161 W

----- 073432

R 131453Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8449

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 2836

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT WA SF

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: SWAPO CONTINUES HIGH LEVEL OF
POLITICAL ACTIVITY

REF: PRETORIA 2710

1. RALLIES ORGANIZED BY SOUTH WEST AFRICA PEOPLES'
ORGANIZATION (SWAPO) YOUTH LEAGUE AUGUST 12 IN WINDHOEK'S
MIGRANT WORKERS' COMPOUND AND SOMEWHERE IN OWAMBO DEMON-
STRATE AGAIN THAT SWAPO IS MOST EFFECTIVE BLACK POLITICAL
ORGANIZATION IN TERRITORY.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, WINDHOEK RALLY OF ABOUT
2,000 PERSONS LASTED FOUR HOURS WHILE ELEVEN SPEECHES
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WERE MADE AND FREEDOM SONGS WERE SUNG UNDER SWAPO'S BLUE,

RED AND GREEN FLAG. CROWD APPLAUDED SPEECHES DESCRIBED IN LOCAL PRESS AS "MOST RADICAL HEARD IN THE TERRITORY FOR AT LEAST A DECADE." THUS "FIGHT FOR YOUR FREEDOM. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW. START TODAY." THERE WERE NO INCIDENTS. AFTERWARDS, HOWEVER, CROWD SMASHED COMPOUND GATE.

3. RALLY SOMEWHERE IN NORTHEAST OWAMBO WAS ATTENDED BY ABOUT 1,000 PERSONS IN DEFIANCE OF BAN ON PUBLIC GATHERINGS. SPEAKERS THERE BLAMED SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE FOR DYNAMITING OF EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN OWAMBO-KAVANGO CHURCH PRINTING PRESS IN MAY.

4. SECURITY POLICE WERE PRESENT AT BOTH MEETINGS BUT NO ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO INTERFERE AND NO ARRESTS HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED THUS FAR. POLICE ARE SAID TO HAVE TAPE RECORDED SPEECHES AND TAKEN PHOTOGRAPHS.

5. COMMENT: IF ANYONE IN SAG MISSED POINT OF MASSIVE OWAMBO ELECTION BOYCOTT, THESE SWAPO MEETINGS SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT SAG CAN IMPOSE ITS WILL ON TERRITORY ONLY AT ITS OWN RISK. INCREASINGLY SWAPO IS EMERGING AS POLITICAL FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH INSIDE NAMIBIA. NEXT MEETING OF PRIME MINISTER'S ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA, WHICH TAKES PLACE AUGUST 16-17 IN PRETORIA, THEREFORE, LOOKS INCREASINGLY IRRELEVANT WITHOUT SWAPO'S PARTICIPATION.
SMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PRETOR02836
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730841/aaaabedn.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: PRETORIA 2710
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Jan-2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <01-Feb-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAMIBIA: SWAPO CONTINUES HIGH LEVEL OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY
TAGS: PINT, WA, SF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005